

Message 6
**The Source of Salvation—God’s Love,
The Basis of Salvation—God’s Righteousness,
and The God-man Savior**

Scripture Reading: Eph. 2:4–5; Titus 3:4–5; John 3:16; 1 John 3:1; 4:9–10; Rom. 3:21–22; 10:3; Phil. 3:9; 2 Pet. 1:1; Rom. 9:5; John 1:1, 14; Acts 2:22; Titus 3:6; 2 Cor. 3:17

I. The source of God’s salvation being God’s love

- A. Man has sinned by disobeying God’s commandment and is under God’s condemnation; thus man is helpless, unable to save himself from God’s coming judgment—Rom. 3:23; 5:12, 18.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 5:12 Therefore just as through one man sin entered into the world, and through sin, death; and thus death passed on to all men because all have sinned.

Romans 5:18 So then as it was through one offense unto condemnation to all men, so also it was through one righteous act unto justification of life to all men.

- B. God loved man in eternity past; He loved man after He created him; and now, even after the fall, He still loves man—Titus 3:4–5; John 3:16

Titus 3:4–5 But when the kindness and the love to man of our Savior God appeared, 5 Not out of works in righteousness which we did but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that every one who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

Ephesians 2:4–5 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

1. The object of love should be in a condition deserving love, but the object of mercy is always in a pitiful situation—Eph. 2:4–5.
2. Hence, God’s mercy reaches further than His love—vv. 4–5.

- C. God’s great love is the source of our salvation; He manifested this love by sending His only begotten Son to die for our redemption—1 John 4:9–10.

1 John 4:9–10 In this the love of God was manifested among us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might have life and live through Him. 10 Herein is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son as a propitiation for our sins.

- D. God’s purpose with man is eternal, and so is His love; He never changes; when He loves us, He loves us eternally—1 John 3:1; Jer. 31:3.

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and we are. Because of this the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

Jeremiah 31:3 Jehovah appeared to me from afar, saying, / Indeed I have loved you with an eternal love, / Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.

II. The basis of God's salvation being God's righteousness—Rom. 3:21–22

- A. The righteousness of God is what God is with respect to justice and rightness; God is just and right; whatever God is in His justice and rightness constitutes His righteousness—Rom. 3:21–22; 1:17; 10:3; Phil. 3:9.

Romans 3:21–22 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been manifested, witness being borne to it by the Law and the Prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ to all those who believe, for there is no distinction.

- B. Man ate of that cursed tree, so according to God's righteousness we must die; because of God's righteousness He must condemn man.
- C. God loves man, yet He had to condemn him; so, for the sake of God's righteousness, the Lord Jesus was put to death on the cross; there, on the cross, He was made sin for us, and God condemned sin in the flesh—Rom. 8:3; *Hymns*, #1003.

Romans 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh.

- D. God's righteousness condemns us, but by Christ's righteous death we are justified; through His twofold righteousness, we can see His love, His righteousness, and His wisdom—2 Peter 1:1.

2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have been allotted faith equally precious as ours in the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

III. The God-man Savior

- A. Jesus Christ is God—Rom. 9:5; John 1:1

Romans 9:5 Whose are the fathers, and out of whom, as regards what is according to flesh, is the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1. He is the Son of God—the declared God—John 1:18.
2. He is the creator of the universe—John 1:3; Col. 1:16.
3. He is the ruler and administrator of the universe—Rev. 1:5; Rom. 15:12.

- B. Jesus Christ is a man—John 1:14; Acts 2:22

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

Acts 2:22 Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man shown by God to you to be approved by works of power and wonders and signs, which God did through Him in your midst, even as you yourselves know.

1. He is a real man—Acts 2:22.
2. He is a sinless and perfect man—Heb. 4:15; 2 Cor. 5:21.

- C. Jesus Christ is the Savior—Titus 3:6

Titus 3:6 Whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

1. The meaning of the name Jesus is Jehovah the Savior—Matt. 1:21; 1 Tim. 4:10.

2. He is the Lamb of God, bearing our sins in His body on the cross—John 1:29; 3:16; 1 Pet. 2:24; 3:18.
3. He was raised from the dead for our justification—Rom. 4:25.
4. Because He is a God-man, therefore the redemption He has accomplished is an eternal redemption—Heb. 9:12; 10:12.
5. He is the only Savior—Acts 4:12.

D. Jesus Christ is the life-giving Spirit—2 Cor. 3:17

2 Corinthians 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

1 Corinthians 15:45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.

1. In resurrection, He became the life-giving Spirit—1 Cor. 15:45.
2. He is our life—Col. 3:4; John 11:25.
3. We must use the right organ—our human spirit—to contact, enjoy and absorb Him—John 4:23–24.

Further reading

God's Full Salvation, Lessons 8–10.